



APPROVED 07-13-04

**KING COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2004**

**EXCHANGE BUILDING, CONFERENCE ROOM 6A**

**Members Present:** Shauna Cheney, Joshua Freed, Howard Miller, Helen Nilon, Eleanor Owen, Ron Sterling, Clifford Thurston

**Members Absent:** Jack Fuller (excused), Alberto Gallego (unexcused – awaiting Executive appointment), Melody Cecilia James (unexcused - awaiting Council confirmation), Orisade Awodola (excused – awaiting Executive appointment), Jim Nobles (excused), Gwendolyn Williams (unexcused)

**Guest Present:** Pam Pratt (private citizen)

**Staff Present:** Lisbeth Gilbert, Geoff Miller, Rhoda Naguit, Jean Robertson, Amnon Shoenfeld

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**I. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION**

Board Chair Howard Miller convened the meeting at 4:37 p.m. and asked everyone to introduce him/herself.

**II. MINUTES**

Eleanor Owen made a motion that was seconded by Helen Nilon to approve the May 11, 2004, meeting minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

**III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**A. Board Membership Update**

Michael Haan will not be attending any board subcommittee meetings nor attend the regular board meeting effective today.

**B. Election of New Board Officers**

Howard conducted the election of new board officers. The Nominations Committee has recommended Ron Sterling for board chairmanship and Eleanor Owen as the Vice Chair. There being no other candidates nominated from the floor for these positions, the board written casts ballots. Filled in ballots were turned in to Rhoda Naguit for counting. Ron Sterling and Eleanor Owen were unanimously voted as Board Chair and Vice Chair respectively.

### **C. Board Re-appointment**

Howard stated that Ron Sterling is up for re-appointment. His first three-year term with the board will expire on June 30, 2004. Eleanor Owen made a motion, which was seconded by Helen Nilon to re-appoint Ron Sterling for another three-year term. The motion was passed unanimously.

## **IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Legislative Advocacy & Public Affairs Committee – Eleanor Owen**

The committee will meet on June 16, 2004 at 4:00-5:30 p.m. at the Exchange Building Conference Room 6B. The agenda for that meeting includes review of conference call regarding Recovery Month, review of Recovery Month activities currently scheduled, and discussion on additional activities for Recovery Month.

### **B. Nominations Update – Helen Nilon**

The Nominations Committee has received applications for board membership from Francis Kelvin Gonzales and Allan Panitch.

### **C. Quality Council – Ron Sterling**

Before giving a report on Quality Council, Ron Sterling informed the board that the Metropolitan King County Council is holding a Town Hall Meeting on June 14, 2004 at First A.M. E. Church located at 1522 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Seattle. Special focus of the meeting is on human services. There is also an initial meeting of the Joint Legislative/Executive Mental Health Task Force on mental health services and financing on Tuesday, June 15, 2004 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This meeting will be held in House Hearing Room "A", John O'Brien Building on the State Capitol Campus in Olympia. The agenda includes a review of Task Force charge and responsibilities; an overview of Washington's publicly funded mental health system; a review of proposed Task Force work plan; and Task Force organizational decisions. The Task Force meeting is a public meeting and will allocate time for public comments toward the end of the meeting. Ron has created a website at [www.mentalhealthtaskforce.org](http://www.mentalhealthtaskforce.org) to keep people updated on the Task Force.

Copies of Quality Council documents that need approval by the board for posting on the King County Mental Health Advisory Board (KCMHAB) website were distributed to the board members for action.

After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that the board be given ample time to review the documents anew and action be taken at the next board meeting on July 13, 2004.

#### **D. Recovery Initiatives Committee – Eleanor Owen**

At the last committee meeting, the committee members focused on two things: revisit the County Ordinance on Recovery and explore the limitations on agencies in providing information due to GAF score. The committee will also be studying the programmatic changes in the contract at their next meeting.

Clifford Thurston volunteered to be part of the committee.

The new meeting schedule of the Recovery Initiatives Committee is every second Monday of the month at 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. at the Exchange Building Conference Room 6A.

#### **V. STAFF REPORT**

The following is Jean's board briefing:

- Background of creation of Mental Health Advisory Board (MHAB). The board was established in 1969 under RCW 71.24.300 to review and provide comments on plans and policies. In 1992 due to RSN structure changes, the board's role was changed from administrative to advisory board and expanded the board's representation and broadened the definition of consumer (WAC 388-865-0222 and County Ordinance 10560).
- County Ethics Standard states that all meetings of the board are public and records must be kept of those proceedings. Each board committee will have a lead county staff person. County lead is responsible for preparing the final draft for review by the full board and submitting that documents to Rhoda Naguit, board secretary, in time for the monthly board packet distribution. Any changes on the documents are recorded by Rhoda who is responsible for ensuring the document in final form addresses all board edits. Final document is distributed to board by Rhoda and transmitted to Sherry Hamilton for posting approval. Board's subcommittees are bound by same rules.
- County Ethics Standard further states that Board members were nominated by the Executive and confirmed by the council to serve King County. Therefore, County boards are under the same category as County employees and bound by the same standards as County employees. All written materials, brochures, website must meet the standard of the county. They must be formatted by county standard and must have been reviewed before release or posting.
- Subcommittees are chartered by the board with a written charter statement. Recommendations of committees must be approved by full board and become part of the public record.
- Jean updated the Committee Structure and Procedures to add "Recovery Initiatives Committee" in the list of subcommittees. Board Bylaws state that

every board member shall be appointed to be an active member of at least one standing committee. Each committee must consist of at least three board members, all of whom shall be appointed by the chair and approved by the board. In addition, each board member is to be a liaison for at least one agency in order to enhance the board's knowledge of and communication with agencies.

Jean gave an overview of King County Regional Support Network (RSN).

- King RSN was established in 1989 by SB 5400. It was amended under RCW 71.24 - Community Mental Health Services Act. All State and Federal funding to local community treatment agencies flows through the RSN.
- All RSNs are not created equal. For example, King RSN has more ethnic and language diversity and a greater urban population than other RSNs. The needs of King County are different from North Central RSN where one of their big challenges is a large geographic area to cover.
- There are 39 counties in Washington State which was organized into 14 RSNs. King, Pierce, Spokane, Southwest and Clark counties are single-county RSNs, while the remaining RSNs are consist of anywhere from two to 11 counties.
- King County RSN has 17 outpatient providers that serve children, adults, and older adults. There are 550 residential beds in multiple facilities. King County RSN serves 29% of state population.
- King County RSN has total revenue of \$87.5 million for 2003 with the following breakdown: 89.3% is State/Federal Title XIX; 4.3% Federal Grant; 6.3% County and .1% for other local funding. Local RSN operates as a full risk-Managed care organization under a 1915 (b. 3-4) waiver.
- Three years ago, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) found there was an inequitable range of rates across RSNs and decided that Medicaid eligibles were an adequate proxy for prevalence of mental illness six-year phase in of a reallocation formula represents \$42 million loss over that period of time to King County.
- Expenditures not recognized in the JLARC decision include services to reduce pressure on state hospital front door (E & T) and back door (residential). Most other RSNS do not provide these services so statewide rate do not address our higher costs.
- The 2002 Legislature reduced payment to King County by \$10 million to force spend down of fund balance. Multiple specialized services were funded out of "fund balance" such as Crisis Triage Unit (CTU), services to homeless individuals, crisis services, and non-Medicaid services. As a result, King County suffered a \$52 million loss in revenue to serve its residents over six years. Current estimated non-Medicaid expenditures is \$30 million/year. The Division is developing a workgroup to address the cut with the loss of non-Medicaid funding.

- Client population growth in King County has gone up from 33,246 in 2002 to 34,893 in 2003. In addition to population growth, the severity of persons served is increasing.
- Special needs population has also increased which adds to cost of providing services. These clients are medically compromised/homebound, sexual minorities, deaf/hard of hearing and other disabilities.
- Non-Medicaid clients are now served on an “as resources allow” basis. King County has reduced access to services for non-Medicaid clients due to funding cuts. The new CMS directive prohibits use of Medicaid dollars for services and individuals not covered under Medicaid. Payment for non-Medicaid services and non-Medicaid clients must be with state only dollars. Residential and E & T services are non-Medicaid covered services. Savings after January 1, 2005 will be returned to the State to be placed in a community reinvestment fund.

Shauna Cheney asked that the board discuss further spend-down issues at the next board meeting. Jean said that she will invite Division staff Russ Goedde to attend the July 13, 2004 board meeting to answer any questions/concerns about this issue. She will also ask Marty Lindley, MHCADSD Finance and Administrative Services Manager, to do a brief budget presentation.

## **VI. LIAISON REPORTS**

Due to time constraint, liaison reports were postponed to the July 13<sup>th</sup> board meeting. Shauna Cheney will give her liaison report on Seattle Counseling Services and Consejo Counseling and Referral Services at that time.

Joshua Freed asked to be excused from attending the July 13, 2004 meeting.

The board expressed deepest appreciation to Howard Miller for his able leadership as board chair from October 2001 to June 2004.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Prepared by:

Attested by:

Rhoda A. Naguit  
Recording Secretary

Howard Miller  
Board Chair